DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 023 266 EF 001 979

The New Northview Elementary School. Public School Reporter, Vol. 3, No. 1.
Olathe Board of Education, Kans. Unified District 233.
Pub Date Nov 67
Note - 6p.
EDRS Price MF - $0.25 HC - $0.40
Descriptors - *Building Design, *Controlled Environment, Corridors, *Elementary Schools, *Flexible Facilities, Furniture Design, Instructional Materials Centers, Multipurpose Classrooms, School Buildings, *Windowless Rooms

The Northview Elementary School is described, some features including a centrally located library-instructional materials center, flexibility through the absence of load bearing walls allowing flexible use of space, planning areas for teachers, and a minimum of corridor space. Among the unusual features are windowless construction, individual class area exits to the playground, all movable futniture and equipment, individual student tote trays for transport of student materials to work areas, and a completely controlled environment. Total capacity is 450 with expansion possibilities to 630. (NI)

PUBLIC SCHOOL REPORTER
board of education -- unified district 233

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Vol. III No. 1 Olathe, Kansas November, 1967

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION & WELFARE
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The New Northview Elementary School

Planning of the Northview Elementary School was based on the function and purpose of the school building. The planning process (1) determined the needs of children, (2) considered the real goals of education, (3) reviewed recent technology in school construction and environment and then (4) recommended a plan to make the building fit the modern elementary curriculum based on established needs of children. The opposite approach would have been to build a facility and then make children adapt to a set mold and a static curriculum.

Construction began late in 1966 and the building was occupied on September 5, 1967. Already a large number of people from Olathe, from Kansas and from several other states have visited the district's newest school. Everyone is urged to visit while children are in the facility. The real purposes of the school can then be seen.

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Floor to ceiling bulletin boards prove to be an outstanding feature at Northview. These spaces become teaching walls. Space is sufficient to display the work of all children. Diane Willard, first grade teacher, works with a group. Notice that chalkboards are low enough so small children can use them.

Don Everhart, intermediate teacher, uses the overhead projector. Permanently mounted screens in each classroom facilitiate the use of audio visual teaching aids. Window glare or other distractions do not hinder the use of a side range of equipment such as the overhead, motion picture, filmstrip, slide, and opaque projector and educational television.

Open, flexible space is designed to increase pupil learning by facilitating cooperative teaching, by providing easy grouping and regrouping, and by getting better use of materials. Interior spaces are both mutable and malleable. Teachers have an improved environment where needs of children can be met. Marlys Hankins is carrying on a learning activity with a group of 12 children.

The carpeted floor creates the needed educational environment for learning activities even on the floor. Here in another part of a classroom space a group of five children view a sound filmstrip. Independent and small group learning is an integral part of the school experience for all children.

Vivian Bangs, Librarian, conducts a session in the new Library in front of the birthday tree. Again the carpeted floor is ideal for story hour and many activities taking place in the"heart of the school", the library.

Children examine a special display of models in the library. Learning is fun when proper motivation is used in reaching goals and objectives of modern elementary education.

On Halloween a number of children dressed in authentic historical or literary characters. How many characters can you identify?

An inter-communication system links the entire school together. Also records, tape recordings and radio can be channelled to one or any number of spaces in the building. Conduit is in so future closed circuit instructional television is possible.

ADDITIONAL BUILDING FACTS

Construction Costs (including site work, paving, sidewalks, etc.)	
General Construction	$253,516.12
Mechanical	87,699.13
Electrical	62,729.76
Square feet in Building	25,767
Cost per square foot (based on General, Mechanical and Electrical Contracts)	$ 15.68
General Equipment (Library, Shelving, Fixed Cabinets, Mobile classroom cabinets and Storage Equipment	22,655.00
Chalk and Tackboard	6,538.00
Carpet	13,725.00
Kitchen Equipment	1,805.61
Present Enrollment	300
Capacity Enrollment (30 per class)	450
Expansion Possibility (6 additional classrooms)	630

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FEATURES OF THE BUILDING

**A CENTRALLY LOCATED LIBRARY-INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS CENTER easily accessible to all students and teachers. This will become the heart of the school.

**FLEXIBILITY WAS INSURED through the use of a roof structure which eliminated the need for load bearing walls. This engineering accomplishment is very important in better accomplishing established objectives of modern elementary education.

**THERE IS A MINIMUM OF WASTED CORRIDOR SPACE. Almost all of the building is devoted to educational activities. The average conventional school contains about twenty percent hall space. Northview has about seven percent.

**A WINDOWLESS SCHOOL helps make it possible to concentrate completely on the learning environment. Glare, sight distractions, and outside noise are all greatly reduced or eliminated. Decorative, attractive teaching walls replace the traditional wall of glass. Initial cost of windows is estimated at three times more than brick and block. Then drapes or venetian blinds become an added cost. Large glass areas make it extremely difficult to maintain even temperatures. Cooling and heating costs are much less without glass. The main emphasis is on a controlled environment.

**INSTEAD OF THE SELF-CONTAINED CLASSROOM, the open, flexible, interior design and the stated goals of the school together make the "self-contained school" a reality.

**A COMPACT SCHOOL without glass and with little corridor space makes it possible to obtain year round environmental control for little more cost. Up to 100% fresh air is fed into the building when the outside temperature permits. Each space in the building has a separate thermostat and unit ventilator. Air is constantly circulated in the entire building.

**THE ADMINISTRATIVE AREA includes space for speech correction, psychological testing, counseling, a conference room, health facilities, a teacher's lounge and a teacher's work center where instructional materials are developed, produced and stored.

**OPEN, FLEXIBLE SPACE designed to concentrate on every child's special need requires adequate accoustical engineering. The floor is carpeted and the vaulted ceilings are covered with accoustical material. Total daily maintenance costs are expected to be lower with the use of carpet . Research indicates that this is true in other schools. In addition to this consideration the learning environment is greatly improved. Children and teachers are less tired at the close of a day. More real learning takes place. Research shows that human performance increases in a controlled environment school.

**THE MULTI-USE ROOM contains a small children's theater and space for a multitude of instructional activities. Music Activities, Physical Education, Dramatics, Large Group Instruction, Assemblies, P.T.A. Meetings, Young Audience Presentations are among a few of the uses made of this most important space.

**AN INDIVIDUAL EXIT from each classroom to the playground makes it possible to evacuate the building for fire drills in 10 to 15 seconds.

**TEACHER PLANNING AREAS are located adjacent to the classrooms. There is a teacher planning space for every three teachers.

**HOT AND COLD CARTS bring food from another school. (A Central Food Preparation Center is under construction.)

**ALL FURNITURE, EQUIPMENT, AND STORAGE IS MOVABLE. Each child has a tote-tray in which he keeps his materials and carries them with him to the library, instructional materials space or to another grouping area.

Their Education

IT'S IN <u>YOUR</u> HANDS..